

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 NEA-10 DRC-01 L-03 SSO-00 /091 W

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P R 271214Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7672

INFO DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4867

DIA FOR AA

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR YO PINR MILI

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAVS PROTEST ATTACHE ACTIVITIES

REF: BELGRADE 4828

1. AMBASSADOR WAS CALLED IN MORNING OCTOBER 26 BY ACTING ASSISTANT FEDERAL SECRETARY RADKO MOCIVNIK, WHO "REGRETFULLY" CALLED ATTENTION TO ACTIVITIES ON THE PART OF EMBASSY MILITARY PERSONNEL WHICH HE SAID WERE IN VIOLATION OF GROUND RULES FOR ATTACHE CONDUCT AND CONTRAVENED NORMS OF ACCEPTED DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE.

2. MOCIVNIK CITED SEVEN SEPARATE INSTANCES BETWEEN OCTOBER 14 AND OCTOBER 22, INVOLVING ALL THREE ATTACHES AND ONE ENLISTED MAN, WHICH HE SAID CONSTITUTED IMPROPER BEHAVIOR. ACTIONS CITED WERE:

- (A) FAIRLURE TO ANNOUNCE TRIP IN ADVANCE (ONE INSTANCE).
- (B) DEPARTURE FROM ANNOUNCED ROUTE (THREE INSTANCES)
- (C) SLOWING BELOW POSTED MINIMUM OR STOPPING IN PROHIBITED AREAS (TWO INSTANCES)
- (D) USE OF BINOCULARS AND NOTE TAKING (ONE INSTANCE)
- (E) OBSERVING MILITARY AIRFIELDS AND OTHER INSTALLATIONS (INVOLVED IN EACH CITED INSTANCE.)

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3. MOCIVNIK ASKED THAT AMBASSADOR TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO PREVENT CONTINUATION OF CITED ACTIVITIES. HE ALSO DREW ATTENTION TO FACT THAT YUGOSLAV SECURITY SERVICE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO TIGHTEN CONTROL MEASURES, AND THIS INCREASES POSSIBILITY THAT ACTIVITIES SUCH AS THOS CITED COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INCIDENT DAMAGING TO BILATERAL RELATIONS

4. AMBASSADOR SAID HE OF COURSE WOULD LOOK INTO ALLEGATIONS AND IF IN FACT MILITARY PERSONNEL HAD ACTED IN CONTRAVENTION OF GROUND RULES HE WOULD OFFER APPROPRIATE APPOLOGY. AMBASSADOR NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT ON BASIS OF INFORMATION GIVEN HE COULD SEE LITTLE EVIDENCE OF BEHAVIOR WHICH COULD BE CHARACTERIZED AS IN VIOLATION OF DIPLOMATIC NORMS EXCEPT FOR DEVIATION FROM REGISTERED ROUTES. MOCIVNIK RESPONDED THAT MILITARY INSTALLATIONS WERE POSTED REGARDING VEHICLE SPEEDS, STOPPING, USE OF BINOCULARS, AND TAKING PICTURES, AND THAT ACTIVITIES OF EMBASSY MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES HAD IN SOME INSTANCES BEEN IN VIOLATION OF THESE RULES.

5. ATTACHES HAVE OF COURSE UNDERTAKEN INCREASED TRAVEL IN RESPONSE TO WASHINGTON QUERIES SINCE ME FIGHTING BEGAN, BUT HAVE BEEN CAREFUL TO ADHERE TO GROUND RULES. ARMATT IS OUT OF COUNTRY NOW, BUT ONLY ALLEGED INFRACTIONS CONFIRMED SO FAR ARE ONE INSTANCE OF DEVIATION FROM ANNOUNCED ROUTE AS RESULT URGENT REQUIREMENT LEVIED BY WASHINGTON AFTER TRAVEL PLANS SUBMITTED, AND TRIP BY DAO ENLISTED MAN FOR WHICH NO PRIOR NOTIFICATION WAS GIVEN (DAO HAD BEEN INFORMED ORALLY NOTIFICATION NOT NECESSARY FOR INLISTED).

6. EMBASSY BELIVES MOCIVNIK DEMARCH REFLECTS:

(1) GOY JUMPINESS DURING MOST CRITICAL DAYS OF ME CRISIS, REFLECTED IN MOCIVNIK'S STATEMENT THAT SECURITY SERVICES TIGHTENING CONTROL MEASURES, AND

(2) POSSIBLE FURTHER GOY REACTION TO OUR DEMARCHES CONCERNING RECENT YUGOSLAV BEHAVIOR.

7. IF FURTHER INVESTIGATION REVEALS NO ADDITIONAL INFRACTIONS, CONFIDENTIAL

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AMBASSADOR PLANS TO TAKE SUITABLE OPPORTUNITY REPLY TO MOCIVNIK THAT WE HAVE CONFIRMED ONE INSTANCE ROUTE DEVIATION AND REGRET THIS INFRACTION, OTHERWISE WE FIND ATTACHES' BEHAVIOR TO HAVE BEEN ENTIRELY CORRECT. AMBASSADOR WILL ADD THAT WE CONSIDER MATTER CLOSED.
TOON

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